

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ISO-00 AID-20 OMB-01 SAM-01 ABF-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /135 W

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R 281215Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4755

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 4753

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA XA GH

SUBJ: KEY ISSUES AT 29TH UNGA

REF: A. STATE 181646 B. STATE 184584

SUMMARY: APPROACH TO GOG FONMINISTRY AUGUST 27 TO
OFFER CONSULTATIONS AND DISCUSS KEY ISSUES 29TH UNGA
DID NOT GENERATE VERY ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE, BUT SOME
REACTION ELICITED ON A FEW UNGA ISSUES. EMBASSY
IMPRESSION IS THAT GHANAIS WILL BE SOMEWHAT LESS
HELPFUL AND RESPONSIBLE IN UNGA THAN PREVIOUSLY.
END SUMMARY

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED POINTS RAISED REFTELS WITH DIRECTOR
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION, FONMINISTRY, ON
AUGUST 27. DIRECTOR EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OUR OFFER
CONSULTATIONS, BUT DID NOT SPECIFY ANY UNGA ISSUES OF
PARTICULAR INTEREST TO GHANA. HE SAID HE WOULD BE IN
TOUCH LATER IF ANYTHING CAME UP TO WHICH GHANA WISHED
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TO DRAW OUR SPECIAL ATTENTION. WE SUSPECT THAT FINAL

MINISTRY DRAFT OF BRIEF FOR COMMISSIONER FONAFFAIRS NOT YET COMPLETED AND MINISTRY HAS YET TO IDENTIFY UNGA PRIORITIES. ALSO QUITE LIKELY THAT GHANA DOES NOT REGARD ANY UNGA ISSUES AS BEING OF BURNING IMPORTANCE AND REQUIRING SPECIAL EFFORT ASCERTAIN OR INFLUENCE U.S. VIEWS IN ADVANCE. GHANA REGARDS OAU AS PRIMARY POINT OF INTERNATIONAL POLICY POSITION-TAKING AND TENDS REGARD ANNUAL OUTING TO NEW YORK AS EXERCISE IN IMPLEMENTATION AGREED APPROACHES WITHIN AFRICAN BLOC. ONLY REACTIONS ELICITED ON SPECIFIC TOPICS MENTIONED REFTEL B AS FOLLOWS:

2. SOUTH AFRICA: GHANAISANS HAVE HEARD TALK OF EXPELLING SOUTH AFRICA FROM UN, ARE QUITE AWARE HOW UNDESIRABLE A PRECEDENT THIS WOULD BE FOR OTHER GOVTS AND UN ITSELF. FONMINISTRY FULLY AGREES SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD REMAIN AVILABLE IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ORDER TO ENSURE IT AWARE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES BEING EXERTED THESE FORA. UNSTATED IMPLICATION DIRECTOR'S FORMULATION THIS POINT, HOWEVER, WAS THAT WE SHOULD NOT COUNT TOO HEAVILY ON LTCOL BAAH'S EXERTING ANY RESTRAINING INFLUENCE IN AFRICAN GROUP IF EXPLUSION PROJECT ACTUALLY RAISED IN NEW YORK.

3. NAMIBIA: GHANA DOES NOT BELIEVE IN SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA ON THIS ISSUE EITHER. AS NATIONAL REDEMPTION COUNCIL CHAIRMAN COL. ACHEAMPONG TOLD SECGEN WALDHEIM AND COMMONWEALTH SECGEN EARLIER THIS YEAR, WHAT GHANA BELIEVES IN TO SECURE SOUTH AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL FROM NAMIBIA IS FORCE.

4. MIDEAST AND PORTUGAL: DIRECTOR TOOK POINT THAT THESE DELICATE SITUATIONS REQUIRE RESTRAINT IN UNGA THIS YEAR, INDICATED POSSIBILITY THAT GHANA WOULD CONSUL AFRICAN AND ARAB FRIENDS TO GO EASY ON RESOLUTIONS THESE SUBJECTS.

5. KHMER CREDENTIALS: HAVING RECOGNIZED GRUNK, GHANA WILL VOTE IN GRUNK FAVOR IF SEATING ISSUE ACTUALLY COMES TO A VOTE. NO POSSIBILITY OF AN ABSTENTION THIS YEAR.

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6. UN BUDGET: GHANA ALSO CONCERNED HIGH COST AND INEFFECTIVENESS MANY UN PROGRAMS AND PROCEDURES. AGREES ON NEED FOR INTERNAL EVALUATION SYSTEM AND WILL SUPPORT REASONABLE PROPOSALS. ALSO AGAINST UN SALARY INCREASES, BOTH ON MERITS AND FROM FEAR INCREASING UN COSTS WILL MEAN RAISING GHANA'S REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION TO FINANCE ORGANIZATION.

7. STEAMROLLER TACTICS: IN GENERAL, GHANA (OR AT LEAST COMMISSIONER FONAFFAIRS BAAH) RATHER PLEASED WITH SIGNS OF PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING AFRICAN UNITY AND EXPECTS CONSIDERABLE BENEFITS TO COME IN FUTURE THROUGH INCREASED COORINDATION OF AFRICAN GROUP IN INTERNATIONAL FORA. IN OTHER WORDS, THOUGH NOT INCLINED TO EXTREME PITCH OF SOME OF AFRICAN COLLEAGUES, GHANA UNPERSUADED THAT BLOC VOTING IS AN EVIL, AT THIS POINT.

8. COMMENT: ON THIS INTIAL CONTACT, WE BELIEVE FONMINISTRY OFFICIAL FAILED TO GRASP POINT THAT OUR OFFER INCREASED CONSULTATIONS ANY DIFFERENT FROM OUR USUAL ANNUAL PRE-UNGA APPROACHES TO GOG, WHICH IN PAST HAVE BEEN FRANK AND CORDIAL IF NOT ALWAYS TERRIBLY PRODUCTIVE. BELIEVE USEFUL CONTACTS WITH PROFESSIONAL GHANAIAAN DIPLOMATS CAN CONTINUE TO BE MADE HERE AND IN NEW YORK BEFORE AND DURING 29TH UNGA TO FURTHER DEVELOP OUR PITCH THAT U.S. MAKING NEW APPROACH ON UN ISSUES. HOWEVER, AS AMBASSADOR HADSEL POINTED OUT IN ACCRA 3662 (NOTAL) WE ARE NOT GOING TO GET VERY FAR WITH COMMISSIONER FONAFFAIRS BAAH.
HANSON

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